

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter*

Volume 39. ✦ Number 6 ✦ June 2006

Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, Inc., P. O. Box 15102, Long Beach CA 90815-0102
<http://www.qhgs.info/>

MONTHLY MEETING: third Sunday of the month at 1:15 p.m.
Resurrection Lutheran Church Parish Hall, 1900 East Carson Street, Long Beach

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SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2006

1:15	Class Period	INTERMEDIATE: Working with Land Surveys presented by John McCoy
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2:00	Break	Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments
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2:15	Business
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2:30	General Meeting	SPEAKER: Kathleen Roe Trevena Crossing a Continent: Migration Between the Revolution and the Civil War
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JUNE MEETING

BASIC CLASS:

BEGINNING FAMILY RESEARCH

There will be no beginning research classes at the June, July and August monthly meetings. These classes will resume in September.

INTERMEDIATE CLASS:

We will review how to use a protractor, a ruler, and some high school math to understand surveys and deeds. Once you know how to convert the survey measurements into maps, you can begin to see how the neighboring properties fit together and, sometimes, discover genealogical clues.

SPEAKER: KATHLEEN ROE TREVENA

Kathleen has been doing genealogy for 30 years, enjoying both her own ancestors and those she “borrows” from her friends. She has lectured throughout Southern California on various historical topics of interest to genealogists. In her spare time, she manages a documentation group for a large software company in Costa Mesa.

At the end of the Revolutionary War, the fledgling United States was still a narrow strip of colonies along the eastern seaboard. By the Civil War, the United States spread 3000 miles from the Atlantic to the Pacific. This lecture explains how this radical change came about—outlining the international politics and new laws that shaped that migration. It then explores the inventions of the Industrial Revolution, the economics of agriculture, and the massive emigrations from Europe that influenced where our ancestors lived. Be prepared to look at your own ancestors’ lives in new ways!

FINANCIAL REPORT David WERTS (562) 431-7790

April Income	\$ 147.34
April Expenses	439.67
Operations Balance	\$ 9,493.52

REFRESHMENTS Georgie (Peterson) LYONS (562) 432.4908

Thanks to our May hosts:

Linda ARTUSO	Sally DAVIS
Cynthia DAY-ELLIOTT	Polly JOHNSON
Jeanette JONES	Liz MYERS
Tina YANIS	

Our June hosts will be:

Linda ARTUSO	Charlotte LLEWELLYN
Georgia LYONS	Cheryl TARDIF

MEMBERSHIP REPORT Jeanette (Marcus) JONES (562) 421-5610

MAY MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 38 Guests: 38

NEW MEMBERS

Laurie ANGEL	Individual	5/07
Linda IVERS	Individual	5/07

RENEWALS

Sandra BOURASSA	Individual	9/06
Lizzie COOK	Individual	2/07
Helen GORING	Patron	9/07

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This newsletter is published monthly as a benefit for members of Questing Heirs; it is not meant to be sold. Those who are unable to attend our meetings but wish to subscribe to the newsletter may purchase a newsletter-only membership for \$12.00 a year. To join, please contact us using the address on the front page.

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

Teamwork in Genealogy

For some reason, most of my ancestors seem to have produced very few descendants with any interest in family history. It took about 40 years before I encountered even one cousin from my Baird family. It was almost the same story for Moore and Rice. Almost every bit of research I had to do by myself. But every now and then, enough cousins turn up that we can think about a different approach to research.

I knew I had a couple Bryant cousins. I met one of them in the 1980's while I was living in Indianapolis. At that time, teamwork was slow, because it was all done by writing letters, many of them with pen and those small blue sheets of stationery that we hardly ever see today. Each letter was a very slow conversation between two individuals. Our big problem was that the records of Sullivan County, Indiana, were burned on February 7, 1850.

Today, about 20 years later, the cousin in Indianapolis has passed on, and her quest has been taken up by cousin Jenni in Terre Haute. We were able to collaborate by e-mail, with the result that we tracked down most of the "lost" branches of the family. We located another set of cousins in Washington State, among them some who still had the Bryant surname. Also, we made contact with other researchers who descended from Bryant families that we had always suspected were related. One of them composed an e-mail to all of the researchers and insisted that we always reply to the entire group. Suddenly we were a "genealogical co-operative"!

One result is that our in-boxes are always full. Suggestions, ideas, and new data arrive daily, and each new idea sends somebody to the library or the internet to seek more evidence. We are beginning to figure out which parts of the family stories are true, and which are fiction. Once we had identified several living Bryant families that seem to descend from Josiah Bryant and Lydia Ratliff of Patrick County, Virginia, it finally made sense to pursue DNA testing. So far so good, my closest Bryant relatives seem to be a genetic match with the Bryant family that lived next door in the early days in Sullivan County. We seem to be hot on the trail of the legendary five sons of Josiah and Lydia.

Collaboration is not always easy. We have to be careful to treat everyone with respect and always try to be constructive in our responses. We have to learn to look past other people's foibles. However, the benefits seem to be worth the trouble. I find it extremely helpful to have immediate feedback in the evaluation of difficult evidence. Day by day, the story is becoming clearer, even though it now reaches into at least 10 counties in four states, just for the period from about 1780 to 1830. E-mail and the internet have given us a way to work more effectively.

Do you have any tips for collaborating by e-mail? Send your "lessons learned" to us at RealMac@aol.com. We will publish the best suggestions in a future issue.

by John McCoy

QUESTING HEIRS NEWS

ARCHIVAL DO'S AND DON'TS

Sharon Deveaux's List

Archival means:

- No common, acidic papers
- No ultraviolet exposure
- No rubber bands
- No paper clips
- No rubber cement
- No magnetic album pages
- No black pages
- No cellophane scotch tape
- No masking tape
- No double-sided tape
- No baggies
- No shopping bags
- No brown bags
- No ballpoint pens
- No fingerprints

Archival also means:

- Use 100% archival papers
- Use materials of neutral ph value
- Use archival photo corners
- Use UV Plexiglas or glass
- Use cotton string
- Use polyurethane, polypropylene or polyester for negatives/prints
- Use neutral ph glues
- Use cotton gloves when handling



LECTURE A SUCCESS

Questing Heirs' first Betty Marie Marr Memorial Lecture appeared to be a success, judging by the interest and enthusiasm of the attendees. In all, 76 people were in the audience on May 21 for the big event and were treated to a very informative and entertaining afternoon by our speaker, Hank Jones.

In his first lecture on tracing the origins of emigrants, he urged using all American sources

first—i.e., home sources and relatives, networking with others who share your common interest, perusing published reference works, colonial church books and civil records. Remember that emigrants often traveled in groups. Then consult records in the country of origin.

The second lecture not only reviewed changes in genealogical research methods over the years but was quite inspirational in reminding us why genealogy matters and what we are meant to do as genealogists. Hank urged us to follow our instincts as well as our intellect and to be a conduit by leaving a legacy.

Advance publicity for this Memorial Lecture was effective. Greeters were ready at the door of the church, as well as others who directed the guests as needed. Refreshments were delicious and attractively displayed. Many thanks to all the members who helped in these various capacities, and especially to John McCoy for his work in coordinating our efforts and providing the programs.



Thanks to Cynthia Day-Elliott who has volunteered to help us with the preparation of the Newsletter for mailing!

We live with a heritage from earlier generations and must seek to create positive legacies for those who follow us. When the old are not allowed to tell their story, the young grow up without history. If the young are not listened to, we have no future.

Dr. Gunhild O. Hagstad

SOURCES

TEXAS RECORDS

Genealogical Records in Texas, by Imogene Kinard Kennedy and J. Leon Kennedy, is a 248-page paperback that is overflowing with information about hundreds of records repositories within the state.

The book starts with a series of great history lessons: Early Municipalities of Texas, Mexican Laws Concerning Immigration, Spanish Terms Used in Land Grants and Early Deeds, Original Colonies of Texas, Land Districts of Texas, and the Formation and Organization of Counties.

Genealogical Records in Texas then describes the records available at county courthouses, in the Texas State Library and its regional divisions, in the Texas State Archives, and in the Texas General Land Office.

This book is published under the Clearfield imprint of Genealogical Publishing Company and sells for \$37.50. You can order it online from the publisher or by mail at:

Clearfield Company, Inc.
3600 Clipper Mill Rd., Suite 260
Baltimore, MD 21211

Extract from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, 8 Feb 2006, at <http://www.eogn.com>. (Copyright 2006 by Richard W. Eastman.)



LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

<http://blogs.ancestry.com/circle>

Subscribe to the current newspaper in the city or town where your ancestral families lived. Many are online but not all of those are the complete newspaper for that day or week. The current newspaper may have a column reprinting news tidbits from fifty, seventy-five or a hundred years ago. To find current contact details on a

newspaper, just do an online search using keywords such as *Auburn newspaper* or *Somerset newspaper*.

In smaller cities and towns, you may find articles on the local historical society, genealogical society, and stories on older homes and buildings. From these you may learn who the knowledgeable persons in that area are as far as local history. You might learn the name of the head of the Comfort Rest Cemetery committee.

Don't forget to borrow older newspapers on microfilm via Interlibrary Loan and spend some time reading these to get a feeling for the time when your family was in that locality. Inquire at your local public library about borrowing newspaper films from other places. Don't forget that many older newspapers are now online, including those at Ancestry.com. Online collections continue to grow, so check back often.

Tips from the Pros by Paula Stuart Warren, 13 May 2006. (Copyright 1998-2006, MyFamily.com, Inc. and its subsidiaries.)



CIVIL WAR PHOTOS

<http://carlisle-www.army.mil/usamhi/PhotoDB.html>

Have you ever checked the U. S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, PA, for a photo of your Civil War ancestor? You can search the database by name, town, state, or regiment. If you're lucky and find your ancestor, you can order a copy of the photo by e-mail from:

usamhi@carlisle.army.mil

or by regular mail at:

U. S. Army Military History
Attn: Special Collections
22 Ashburn Drive
Carlisle, PA 17013-5008

OF INTEREST

CITIZENSHIP/IMMIGRATION RECORDS

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) processes requests for historical records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). In order to obtain information about more recent ancestors' immigration and citizenship records, the only method today is to file a request under the FOIA. (This doesn't apply to 19th and early 20th century records.)

The present process is slow for the genealogists and expensive to the taxpayers. The agency has received an average of 10,000 combined search and records requests per year over the last 4 years. The backlog is increasing. Now the office of USCIS has proposed changing the procedure to simplify the process, speeding up the response to inquiries and reducing taxpayers' expenses.

The new proposal would establish a Genealogy Program within USCIS to process requests for historical records of deceased individuals, removing genealogy research from the huge and growing volume of requests under the FOIA.

Abstracted from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, 24 Apr 2006, at <http://www.eogn.com>. (Copyright 2006 by Richard W. Eastman.)

CONFEDERATE RESEARCH PROJECT AT THE TEXAS STATE CEMETERY

<http://www.cemetery.state.tx.us>

There are more than 2,200 Confederate veterans and their spouses buried at the Texas State Cemetery located in Austin, Texas. Researching an ancestor who fought for the Confederacy can be a tedious and difficult endeavor. However, the rewards can be refreshing and enlightening once the story is developed and completed for future generations to enjoy and be proud of.

It is the goal of the Texas State Cemetery Confederate Research Project to be able to tell the

story of each Confederate veteran and their spouse for genealogical research. Each individual buried at the Cemetery has an individual webpage that includes name, date of birth, date of death, date of burial, short biographical sketch, individual photograph and headstone photograph.

If you have any information regarding an individual buried at the Texas State Cemetery, please call Clint Lynch, Director of Research, at 512/463-7875 or e-mail:

StateCemetery@tbpc.state.tx.us

You can search the database by clicking on "Master List of Burials."

From "Our Loose Ends Genealogy Column" by Lynna Kay Shuffield. Message posted 18 May 2006 at TX-LOOSE-ENDS-L@rootsweb.com.

DNA OF JAMESTOWN SETTLERS

<http://smgf.org>

The Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation is interested in locating ancestors of the Jamestown settlers. They are trying to do something related to the 400th anniversary [of Jamestown's settlement]. If you have a direct connection to Jamestown, or know someone who does, please contact, or have them contact, the foundation to discuss possible participation in this program.

By telephone, the numbers are 800/344-7643 or 801/428-1053. By e-mail, contact Sacha Masek at sacha@smgf.org.

Or write to:

Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation
2480 South Main Street, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84115

A message from Harold McClendon, Publicity Chairman for the Mount Vernon (VA) Genealogical Society, forwarded to APG-L@rootsweb.com 20 May 2006.

LINKS TO STATE LIBRARY PAGES

ALABAMA	http://www.apls.state.al.us
ALASKA	http://www.library.state.ak.us
ARIZONA	http://www.lib.az.us
ARKANSAS	http://www.asl.lib.ar.us
CALIFORNIA	http://www.library.ca.gov
COLORADO	http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_library.htm
CONNECTICUT	http://www.cslib.org
DELAWARE	http://www.state.lib.de.us
FLORIDA	http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/stlib
GEORGIA	http://www.georgialibraries.org/lib
HAWAII	http://www.librarieshawaii.org
IDAHO	http://www.lili.org
ILLINOIS	http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/home.html
INDIANA	http://www.statelib.lib.in.us
IOWA	http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org
KANSAS	http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL
KENTUCKY	http://www.kdla.ky.gov
LOUISIANA	http://www.state.lib.la.us
MAINE	http://www.maine.gov/msl
MARYLAND	http://www.sailor.lib.md.us
MASSACHUSETTS	http://www.mlin.lib.ma.us
MICHIGAN	http://www.michigan.gov/hal
MINNESOTA	http://www.state.mn.us/libraries/index.html
MISSISSIPPI	http://www.mlc.lib.ms.us
MISSOURI	http://www.sos.mo.gov/library
MONTANA	http://msl.state.mt.us
NEBRASKA	http://www.nlc.state.ne.us
NEVADA	http://dmla.clan.lib.nv.us
NEW HAMPSHIRE	http://webster.state.nh.us/nhsl
NEW JERSEY	http://www.njstatelib.org
NEW MEXICO	http://www.stlib.state.nm.us
NEW YORK	http://www.nysl.nysed.gov
NORTH CAROLINA	http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us
NORTH DAKOTA	http://ndsl.lib.state.nd.us
OHIO	http://winslo.state.oh.us
OKLAHOMA	http://www.odl.state.ok.us
OREGON	http://www.oregon.gov/OSL
PENNSYLVANIA	http://www.statelibrary.state.pa.us/libraries/site/default.asp
RHODE ISLAND	http://www.state.ri.us/library
SOUTH CAROLINA	http://statelibrary.sc.gov
SOUTH DAKOTA	http://www.sdstatelibrary.com
TENNESSEE	http://www.tennessee.gov/tsla
TEXAS	http://www.tsl.state.tx.us
UTAH	http://library.utah.gov
VERMONT	http://dol.state.vt.us
VIRGINIA	http://www.lva.lib.va.us
WEST VIRGINIA	http://librarycommission.lib.wv.us
WISCONSIN	http://dpi.wi.gov
WYOMING	http://www-wsl.state.wy.us

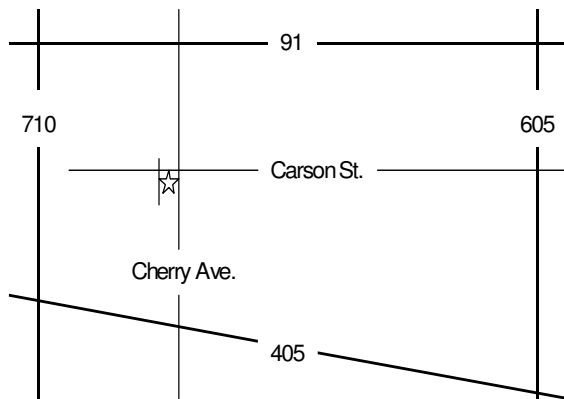
CALENDAR

Saturday, June 3. Orange County, California, Genealogical Society. No meeting this month.

Saturday, June 10. Southern California Genealogical Society. No general meeting this month.

Saturday, June 17, 1:00 pm. Whittier Area Genealogical Society monthly meeting. Masonic Lodge, 7604 Greenleaf Ave., Whittier. Program: Nancy Carlberg on the topic "Names, Nicknames, and Misspelled Names."

Sunday, June 18, 1:15–3:30 pm. Questing Heirs Genealogical Society monthly meeting. Parish Hall, Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1900 East Carson Street, Long Beach. Parking and entrance on Gardenia Avenue, one block west of Cherry Avenue. See map below. For meeting information, please see page 42.



Wednesday, June 21, 7:00 pm. South Bay Cities Genealogical Society monthly meeting at the Torrance Civic Center Library, 3301 Torrance Blvd., Torrance. Topic: "How I Found My Birth Parents" by Phillip Thomas.

Sunday, June 25, 1:00-3:00 pm. British Isles Family History Society-USA general meeting at the Los Angeles Regional FHC.* Topic: "It's About Time" by Jay C. Wood.



**BYU GENEALOGY AND FAMILY
HISTORY CONFERENCE**

This 38th annual conference will be held from August 1-4, 2006, in the BYU Conference Center. The theme is "Strengthening Ties That Bind Families Together Forever."

More than 100 classes will be offered, allowing participants to gain new skills and helpful information. Class topics include Beginning Family History, Family History Center Support, Computers and New Programs, Europe-Nordic Research, British Research, U.S. Research, Methodology, and Publishing Family Histories.

For further program or registration information, you may contact:

BYU Conferences and Workshops
136 Harman Continuing Education Bldg.
Provo, UT 84602-1516
Phone: (801) 422-8925
E-mail: cs136@byu.edu
<http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwgen>



*FHC stands for Family History Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. FHCs are open free of charge to members of the general public interested in doing genealogical research. Volunteers are on hand and will gladly give you assistance. Regular hours for the Los Angeles Regional FHC are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10 am to 9 pm, and Friday and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm. The LARFHC is located on the grounds of the Los Angeles Temple, 10741 Santa Monica Blvd. in West Los Angeles; their phone number is (310) 474-9990. Their web page at <http://www.larfhc.org> provides details of their extensive collection. There are smaller FHCs locally, in Long Beach at 3701 Elm Avenue in Bixby Knolls, phone (562) 988-0509, in Los Alamitos, phone (714) 821-6914, and in Cerritos, phone (562) 924-3676. It is advisable to call ahead to the local centers, as their hours may change from time to time.